--- 20 Overweight Cigarettes - imperforate - “Tuckett Tobacco” - 1961-62 ---

--- ★RC-412 - imperforate - RC-386 overprinted in DARK BLUE ink with OVER / 2½ Lbs. / PER 1000 ---

As the filter-tip became the rule, and in an effort to increase the amount of tobacco used (since the filter replaced tobacco) in 1962 the pre-war standard of three pounds per thousand *small cigarettes* was restored. For a brief period late in 1961, and early in 1962, prior to the aforementioned legislation change, some of the manufacturers were producing *over-weight* cigarettes, and the stamps of these packages bear are dark blue three-line BABN overprint **OVER / 2 ½ Lbs. / PER 1000** - catalogued as **RC-411/420**.

--- the company code *without serifs* is oriented to read horizontally upright at the bottom - 3 copies to date ---

Three copies in red ink - **5**, **6** and **7** or **55**, **66** and **77**

It is difficult to decide, on the basis of these examples, whether the above split red ink cancellations read as **5**, **6** and **7**, or as **55**, **66** and **77**. These stamps were used in 1961-62, and I find it hard to imagine that the collection contains successive copies, jumping by 11 numbers each time. Possibly being temporarily used on *over-weight cigarettes* they were specially numbered, possibly in the month of use - thus May, June and July 1961 - or perhaps in the 5th, 6th and 7th week of production in 1962.

The stamps are creased vertically down the center, which seems to indicate that only a single number could be read from either side of the package. However with the overprint there is insufficient uncluttered space on the stamp to print a two figured cancellation at each side. The company cancellation is definitely split by the fold. It is unfortunate that none reads as **54**, or some other figure using two different digits.

File path is [c:\ MS - STAMPS \ RC_STAMPS \ 1935 - Series C \ 20 cigarettes \ 1-18E - overweight],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
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